

The JFK assassination: One gunman?

Wednesday will mark the 26th anniversary of President John F. Kennedy's death. There are still unanswered questions about the events of Nov. 22, 1963. The Warren Commission investigated the murder and reported that Lee Harvey Oswald, alone, fired 3 shots from the Texas School Book Depository (TSBD). Others disagree, basing a case for other gunmen and shots from the following information.



Eyewitnesses

A Lee Bowers saw cars & 2 men with radio phones behind stockade fence.

B Abraham Zapruder said shot came over right shoulder.

C Emmett Hudson heard shots above and behind him.

D S.M. Holland saw puff of smoke on grassy knoll.

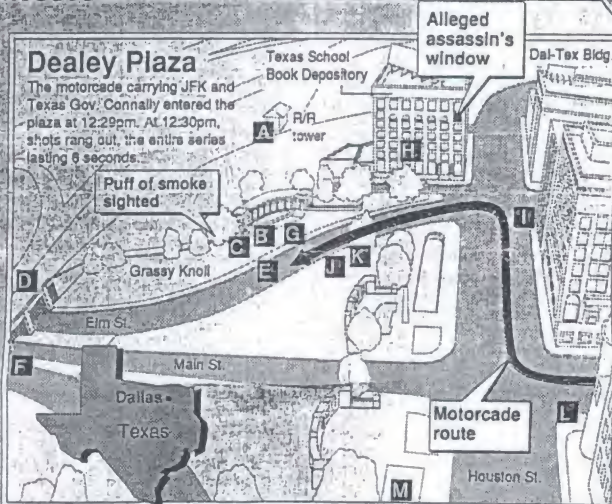
E Forrest Sorrels, in lead car, said shot came from knoll.

F James Tague hit by piece of curb from stray bullet.

G The Newmans dropped to ground; said shots came over their heads.

Dealey Plaza

The motorcade carrying JFK and Texas Gov. Connally entered the plaza at 12:29pm. At 12:30pm, shots rang out, the entire series lasting 6 seconds.



Alleged assassin's window

Del-Tex Bldg.

H Many TSBD office workers heard shots from knoll.

I James Crawford heard shots from knoll.

J Officer Haig's, behind JFK, said shot came from knoll; spattered with blood, he led chase up knoll.

K Paul Landis, Secret Service agent, said last shot came from knoll.

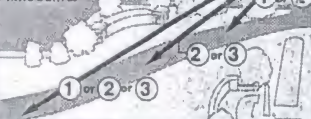
L Deputy Weitzman heard shots from knoll; found 8-12" piece of skull on Elm St.

M J.C. Price, on roof of Terminal Annex Bldg., saw man run to railroad cars after he heard volley of shots.

How many shots?

Warren Commission Report: One gunman, 3 shots

1 or 2 enters Kennedy's back, exits throat; enters Connally's back, through chest, right wrist and into left thigh.
2 or 3 enters and exits Kennedy's head.
1 or 2 or 3 misses limousine.



One of many conspiracy theories: 4 gunmen, 6 shots

1 enters Kennedy's throat.
2 enters Kennedy's back.
3 enters Connally's back.
4 scars curb; wounds bystander James Tague.
5 and 6 enter Kennedy's head.



Medical Reports

Parkland Hospital (Dallas)

Physicians found a massive "exit" wound at the back of the head, with part of the skull missing. A tracheotomy was performed over an "entrance" wound at JFK's throat; back wound was not examined.



Bethesda Naval Hospital (Maryland)

The autopsy documented a major wound at the right temple and a back wound short in depth (1-2") with no point of exit. The throat wound was not examined.



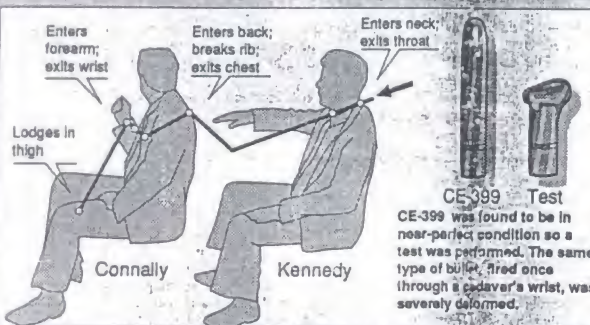
Bethesda Naval Hospital (Maryland)

A revised version, relocated the back wound several inches higher and claimed the bullet exited at JFK's throat and proceeded through Connally. Early autopsy notes were destroyed.



CE-399: The Magic Bullet

Commission Exhibit 399 or "magic bullet" was found on a stretcher at Parkland Hospital. The Commission contends that this bullet, virtually undamaged, passed through Kennedy and Connally, causing 7 separate wounds. Researchers contend the zig-zagging flightpath, shown below, was impossible.



Did You Know?

- Oswald was given a nitrate test on the night after the shooting. Results showed he had not recently fired a gun.
- Julia Ann Mercer, caught in traffic on Elm St., saw a man get out of a truck and carry a rifle up the grassy knoll. Later, she identified the driver to the FBI as Jack Ruby.
- 510 photos were taken by 75 photographers in Dealey Plaza in the hour before, during and after the shooting. Warren Commission examined 26 photos; FBI examined 50.
- 16 of the 20 Dallas sheriff's deputies in Dealey Plaza believed shots came from the knoll and ran in that direction.
- Kennedy's brain is missing from the National Archives.
- Governor Connally's clothes were dry cleaned, destroying evidence.
- Oswald's mother insisted that he was a U.S. intelligence agent.
- There is more metal remaining in Connally's body than is missing from Court Exhibit 399, the magic bullet.

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